

14 June 1982

ADDS&T

Room 6E45 Headquarters

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FYI.

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Key

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State Dept. review completed

FBIS Registry

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W EIAØ97ESA815 OO RUEIFBS DE RUQMQG #1936 1650859 ZNY CCCCC ZZH O R 14Ø843Z JUN 82 FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4093 INFO RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 9789 RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS 2128 RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 2067 RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 8720 RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 2438 RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 1299 RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 8600 RUSNNOA/USCINCUEUR VAIHINGEN GE RUFRSHH/USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT RUEIBFS/FBIS WASHDC BT CONFIDENTIAL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NICOSIA 1936

MILITARY ADDRESSEES FOR POLADS

E.O. 12065: N/A TAGS: PEPR. CY. US

SUBJECT: GOC STATEMENT ON FBIS OPERATIONS IN CYPRUS

REF: NICOSIA 1928

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1. GOC MFA ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL MARKIDES CONTACTED EMBOFF JUNE 12 TO SAY THAT BECAUSE OF CONTINUING PRESS QUESTIONS ON PAYMENTS MADE BY USG FOR FBIS OPERATIONS IN CYPRUS, GOC HAD DECIDED TO ISSUE ORAL STATEMENT ON FBIS AT GOC SPOKESMAN'S REGULAR PRESS BRIEFING MIDDAY JUNE 14.

2. FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT: QUOTE. IN RELATION TO PRESS REPORTS REGARDING THE COMPENSATION GIVEN BY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT FOR THE OPERATION OF RADIO STATIONS IN CYPRUS, THE FOLLOWING IS OFFERED: AS IS KNOWN, DURING THE COLONIAL PERIOD THERE WERE RADIO STATIONS IN OPERATION IN CYPRUS WHICH ALSO CON-TINUED TO BE OPERATED AFTER INDEPENDENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF CYPRUS AND THE UNITED STATES WHICH PROVIDED FOR THE PAYMENT OF RELEVANT COMPENSATION. THESE U.S. RADIO STATIONS WERE LOCATED IN NICOSIA, KARAVAS, MIA MILEA AND YEROLAKKOS. AFTER THE TURKISH INVASION, THE OPERATION OF ALL RADIO STATIONS WAS STOPPED. IN 1975, THE U.S. EMBASSY IN NICOSIA REQUESTED OF THE GOC THAT IT BE ALLOWED TO BEGIN OPERATIONS OF THE FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE (FBIS) ON A VERY LIMITED SCALE AS AN ANNEX OF THE EMBASSY. THIS REQUEST WAS APPROVED AND THE SUM OF 400,000 DOLLARS IS PAID ANNUALLY BY THE USG, AS WAS INDICATED BY THE SPOKESMAN ON DECEMBER 11, 1979, TO THE TREASURY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE GOC RECEIVES WITHOUT CHARGE INFORMATION TRANSMITTED BY FBIS. UNQUOTE.

3. MARKIDES AGREED THAT FOLLOWING THIS STATEMENT AND IN RESPONSE TO PRESS INQUIRIES ON IT, EMBASSY PAO WILL, IF ASKED, INDICATE THAT WE ERE AWARE OF THE SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT, THAT IT IS ACCURATE, AND THAT ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS ON THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS. EWING BT #1936

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